

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining our freedoms and way of life; and

WHEREAS, tens of millions of Americans have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the past century; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Americans have given their lives while serving in the Armed Forces during the past century; and

WHEREAS, our state is home to over 670,000 Veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, our veterans are brave and selfless individuals who, when duty called, were willing to put themselves in harm's way to defend the lives and liberty of others; and

WHEREAS, their abiding patriotism and enduring devotion to the ideals on which the United States is founded can never fail to inspire us; and

WHEREAS, these men and women understand, above all, the important task before those American service men and women now keeping watch; and

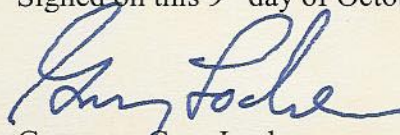
WHEREAS, all Washingtonians must strive to ensure that ours remains a land worthy of the great love our veterans have shown for it;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Locke, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2003, as

Veterans Day

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to acknowledge and honor the contributions of our veterans to the principles of democracy, individual freedom and human rights.

Signed on this 9th day of October, 2003


Governor Gary Locke

